

R E P O R T

OF THE

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

REPORT
OF THE
Governor and Committee
OF THE
HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY,
TO BE
LAID BEFORE THE SHAREHOLDERS PREVIOUS TO
THE GENERAL MEETING,
TO BE HELD ON
NOVEMBER 19th, 1867



LONDON:
PRINTED BY HENRY KENT CAUSTON & SON,
4, LAURENCE POUNTNEY HILL, CANNON STREET.



DIRECTORS.

GOVERNOR.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

SIR EDMUND HEAD, BART., K.C.B.

DEPUTY-GOVERNOR.

SIR CURTIS MIRANDA LAMPSON, BART.

COMMITTEE.

EDEN COLVILE, Esquire,

GEORGE LYALL, Esquire,

DANIEL MEINERTZHAGEN, Esquire,

JAMES STEWART HODGSON, Esquire,

JOHN HENRY WILLIAM SCHRÖDER, Esquire,

RICHARD POTTER, Esquire,

EDWARD WILLIAM TERRICK HAMILTON, Esquire, M.P.

A GENERAL COURT of the Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's Bay will be held, in pursuance of the provisions of the Charter, at their House, in Fenchurch Street, on Tuesday, the 19th day of November current, at One o'clock, for the purpose of Electing a Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Committee for the year ensuing. The Ballot will commence at that hour and close at Three o'clock.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed on Saturday, the 9th, till Wednesday, the 20th instant.

By Order of the Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Committee of the said Company,

WILLIAM G. SMITH,
Secretary.

HUDSON'S BAY HOUSE,
London, November 8th, 1867.

N.B. The meeting formerly advertised to be held in Lime Street will take place at the Company's premises in Fenchurch Street, as heretofore.

R E P O R T.

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The Proprietors are aware of the fact that our Report at this season cannot profess to give the results of the current Outfit, or to predict accurately the nature of the Accounts, which will be made up on the 31st May next. We are able, however, to state that the returns of the year promise to be satisfactory, so far as the quantity of Furs is concerned, although a partial falling off has taken place in Martens, and although a large portion of the returns from Mackenzie's River have not been forwarded. As is generally the case where one species of Fur is deficient another is more abundant than usual.

The Ships which sailed for Hudson's Bay in June last have returned in safety, having delivered their Cargoes, outward and homeward, in good order. The attempt made by us to re-open the trade with the Esquimaux, North of Churchill, and to profit in some degree by the Whale fishing, has not, we are sorry to say, been successful. The failure, however, in the latter branch of enterprise, is we believe common to the "Ocean Nymph," and to almost every other vessel engaged in the same pursuit.

The present condition of commercial affairs in the City of London has not been favorable for the sale of our property in Fenchurch Street, on such terms as the Committee are prepared to accept. The delay is to be regretted, but it appears preferable to incurring a sacrifice under the present circumstances of the market for such property in the city.

The depression in Vancouver's Island and British Columbia still continues, and the unsettled state of the question of the Capital of the United Colony has a tendency to augment it. We believe, however, that we have placed our business there on a sounder footing, and we shall continue to take measures for reducing the expenses incurred on the West Coast of America, so far as is compatible with maintaining the commercial position of the Company.

The accidental discovery of a new "digging" and the influx of population, or an increase in the trade of the Coast consequent on the occupation of Russian America by the United States, may at any moment create a demand for goods far exceeding that which existed previously, and largely augment the profits of those Merchants who are prepared to meet the new call.

In Rupert's Land itself, we are glad to say that according to information which we have received from more than one quarter, symptoms of a disposition to settle are visible, and this fact makes us the more anxious for a speedy conclusion of the questions pending between the

Company and Her Majesty's Government. At this time, however, we are absolutely without any information on this important subject, beyond that which has already been communicated to the Shareholders.

The Commission on the Claims of the Company against the United States of America, is we believe, at the present moment in Session at Washington.

Although the rates at which our Furs were sold in the Autumn were somewhat lower than those obtained in the Spring, yet looking to the returns on hand, the Governor and Committee think themselves justified in recommending that the usual interim Dividend of Eight Shillings per Share, should be paid in January.

It will now be for the Proprietors to elect a Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Committee, as well as Auditors, for the ensuing year.

On behalf of the Committee,

EDMUND HEAD,
Governor.

HUDSON'S BAY HOUSE,
London, November 12th, 1867.

IMPORTATIONS.

	1866	1867
Badger.... Skins.	508	1620
Bear	7855	6457
Beaver....	150170	144744
Fisher	4420	5905
Fox, Cross	2935	4445
Kitt	3910	5896
Red	12739	29439
Silver	761	1089
White	5524	2113
Lynx	34615	68040
Marten....	115667	92373
Mink	53044	73149
Musquash	312301	608396
Otter	14720	14236
Do. Sea	85	140
Porpoise Half	471	678
Rabbit....	144519	105909
Raccoon	5105	24860
Seal, Fur	1845	2091
Do. Hair	14899	20567
Skunk	2755	5913
Swan	989	270
Wolf	6611	7429
Wolverin	705	912
Castorum Lbs.	5395	3035
Isinglass	3239	3852
Bed Feathers	13152	15954
Walrus Teeth	97	187
Goose and Swan Quills M.	550	716
Oil Tuns	66	234
Buffalo and Deer Tongues	1456	500
Horns, Ox and Cow	1296	—
Hides, Do.	1198	401

London, 12th November, 1867.

Note.—The Mackenzie's River returns for 1867 left in Hudson's Bay, are not included in the above statement.

1867 NOVEMBER PROCEEDINGS MISSING.

